

**Filed**  
**JUN 15 2015**  
Missouri Ethics  
Commission

**BEFORE THE  
MISSOURI ETHICS COMMISSION**

MISSOURI ETHICS COMMISSION,	)	
	)	
Petitioner,	)	
	)	Case No. 15-0020-I
v.	)	
	)	
MIKE GALLAGHER,	)	
	)	
Respondent.	)	

**CONSENT ORDER**

The parties have filed a Joint Stipulation of Facts, Waiver of Hearing, and Proposed Consent Order with the Missouri Ethics Commission in this matter. Accordingly, the Missouri Ethics Commission accepts as true the facts stipulated and finds that Respondent Gallagher violated Section 130.031.8, RSMo.

The Commission directs that all terms and orders of the Joint Stipulation be adopted herein and implemented.

1. Respondent shall comply with all relevant sections of Chapter 130, RSMo.
2. It is the Order of the Missouri Ethics Commission that a fee is imposed against Respondent Gallagher in the amount of \$100.00, pursuant to Section 105.961.4(6), RSMo. The fee will be paid by check or money order made payable and sent to the Missouri Ethics Commission at the time of execution of this Joint Stipulation.

SO ORDERED this 15<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2015

By:



Charles E. Weedman, Jr., Chair  
Missouri Ethics Commission

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MIKE GALLAGHER,	)	
	)	
Respondent.	)	

**JOINT STIPULATION OF FACTS, WAIVER OF HEARING  
BEFORE THE MISSOURI ETHICS COMMISSION, AND  
CONSENT ORDER WITH JOINT PROPOSED  
FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

The undersigned parties jointly stipulate to the facts and consent to the action set forth below.

The undersigned Respondent, Mike Gallagher, acknowledges that he has received and reviewed a copy of the Complaint filed by the Petitioner in this case, and the parties submit to the jurisdiction of the Missouri Ethics Commission.

The undersigned Respondent further acknowledges that he is aware of the various rights and privileges afforded by law, including but not limited to: the right to appear and be represented by counsel; the right to have all charges against Respondent be proven upon the record by competent and substantial evidence; the right to cross-examine any witnesses appearing at the hearing against Respondent; the right to present evidence on Respondent's behalf at the hearing; and the right to a decision upon the record of the hearing. Being aware of these rights provided to Respondent by operation of law, the undersigned Respondent knowingly and voluntarily waives each and every one of these rights and freely enters into this Joint Stipulation of Facts, Waiver of Hearing before the Missouri Ethics Commission, and Consent

Order with Joint Proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and agrees to abide by the terms of this document.

## **I.**

Based upon the foregoing, the Petitioner and the undersigned Respondent jointly stipulate to the following and request that the Missouri Ethics Commission adopt as its own the Joint Proposed Findings of Fact and the Joint Proposed Conclusions of Law, as follows:

### **JOINT PROPOSED FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. The Missouri Ethics Commission is an agency of the State of Missouri established pursuant to Section 105.955, RSMo, in part for the purpose of enforcing the provisions of Chapter 130, RSMo.

2. Respondent Gallagher is a resident of Peculiar, Missouri.

3. The City of Peculiar, Missouri had two ballot measures regarding extending the term of office of the mayor and aldermen from two years to four years in the April 2015 election.

4. Pursuant to Section 105.961, RSMo, the Commission's staff investigated a complaint filed with the Commission and reported the investigation findings to the Commission. Based on the report of the Commission's staff, the Commission determined that there were reasonable grounds to believe that violations of law occurred, and it therefore authorized a hearing in this matter pursuant to Section 105.961.3, RSMo.

5. Respondent Gallagher purchased yard signs in March, 2015 that opposed the ballot measures to extend the terms of the mayor and alderman in the April, 2015 election.

6. Respondent Gallagher published, circulated, and/or distributed the yard signs, a true and accurate copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A, by displaying them in various locations in the City of Peculiar, Missouri.

7. Respondent Gallagher paid for the printed matter referred to in Exhibit A.
8. The printed matter referred to in Exhibit A relates to a ballot measure in the April 2015 election.
9. The yard signs referred to in Exhibit A should have contained a clear and conspicuous statement: "Paid for by Mike Gallagher, 926 Glengera, Peculiar MO 64078", but they did not.
10. As originally distributed, the yard signs contained no "Paid for by" disclosure, and as later amended by Respondent Gallagher, the yard signs omitted Respondent Gallagher's address, reading only "Paid for by Mike Gallagher."

#### **JOINT PROPOSED CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

11. "Any person publishing, circulating, or distributing any printed matter relative to any candidate for public office or any ballot measure shall on the face of the printed matter identify in a clear and conspicuous manner the person who paid for the printed matter with the words "Paid for by" followed by the proper identification of the sponsor pursuant to this section." § 130.031.8, RSMo.

12. "[P]rinted matter" shall be defined to include any pamphlet, circular, handbill, sample ballot, advertisement, including advertisements in any newspaper or other periodical, sign, including signs for display on motor vehicles, or other imprinted or lettered material; but 'printed matter' is defined to exclude ... any sign personally printed and constructed by an individual without compensation from any other person and displayed at that individual's place of residence or on that individual's personal motor vehicle; any items of personal use given away or sold, such as campaign buttons, pins, pens, pencils, book matches, campaign jewelry, or

clothing, which is paid for by a candidate or committee which supports a candidate or supports or opposes a ballot measure and which is obvious in its identification with a specific candidate or committee and is reported as required by this chapter; and any news story, commentary, or editorial printed by a regularly published newspaper or other periodical without charge to a candidate, committee or any other person.” § 130.031.8, RSMo.

13. In regard to any printed matter paid for by an individual or individuals, it shall be sufficient identification to print the name of the individual or individuals and the respective mailing address or addresses . . . . § 130.031.8(4), RSMo.

14. There is probable cause to believe that Respondent violated Section 130.031.8, RSMo, by creating and distributing yard signs without the proper “paid for by” disclosure.

## II.

Based on the foregoing, the parties hereto mutually agree and stipulate that the following shall constitute the order entered by the Missouri Ethics Commission in this matter. This order will be effective immediately upon the issuance of the Consent Order of the Missouri Ethics Commission without further action by any party:

1. The parties understand that the Petitioner will maintain this Joint Stipulation as an open and public record of the Missouri Ethics Commission.
2. The Commission shall issue its Consent Order in the form attached hereto as Exhibit B.
  - a. Respondent shall comply with all relevant sections of Chapter 130, RSMo.
  - b. It is the Order of the Missouri Ethics Commission that a fee is imposed against Respondent Mike Gallagher in the amount of \$100.00, pursuant to Section 105.961.4(6), RSMo. The fee will be paid by check or money order made payable and sent to the Missouri Ethics Commission at the time of execution of this Joint Stipulation.
3. The parties consent to the entry of record and approval of this Joint Stipulation and to the termination of any further proceedings before the Commission based upon the Complaint filed by the Petitioner in the above action.
4. Respondent, together with his heirs, successors, and assigns, does hereby waive, release, acquit and forever discharge the Missouri Ethics Commission and its attorneys of or from any liability, claim, actions, causes of action, fees, costs and expenses, and compensation, including but not limited to, a claim for attorney's fees whatsoever which Respondent or

Respondent's attorney may now have or which they may hereafter have, which are based upon or arise out of the above cases.

5. This joint stipulation does not settle, release, waive, or otherwise relieve Respondent from any late filing fees due to the appropriate filing authority, including Petitioner Missouri Ethics Commission. Respondent understands that late filing fees accrue automatically under Section 105.963, RSMo.

RESPONDENT MIKE GALLAGHER

PETITIONER MISSOURI ETHICS  
COMMISSION

By: Mike Gallagher 6-10-15  
Mike Gallagher Date

By: James Klahr 6/15/15  
James Klahr Date  
Executive Director

By: Curtis R. Stokes 6/12/15  
Curtis R. Stokes Date  
Attorney for Petitioner

**VOTE NO**  
**on**  
**Term Extensions**  
**for**  
**City Officials**

EXHIBIT

**A**

tabbles